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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF CHESTER,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1878.



MANCHESTER, N. H.:

JOHN B. CLARKE, PRINTER.

1878.

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TOWN OF CHESTER.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1877.

Moderator.—WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL.

Town Clerk.—CYRUS F. MARSTON.

Representative.—CHARLES S. WILCOMB.

Selectmen.—WILLIAM GREENOUGH, SAMUEL S. PARKER,
GEORGE W. DOLBER.

Superintending School Committee.—LAFAYETTE CHESLEY.

Treasurer.—JOHN W. NOYES.

Collector.—SILAS F. LEARNARD.

Auditors.—JOHN W. NOYES, WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL, MOSES WEBSTER.

The taxes assessed for the year 1877 are as follows:

State tax.....	\$1,124 00
County tax.....	1,223 35
School tax required by law.....	983 50
School-house tax, District No. 1.....	350 00
“ “ “ “ 3.....	250 00
“ “ “ “ 7.....	25 00
Town tax... ..	2,000 00
Non-resident highway.....	124 35
Tax on dogs.....	75 00
Per cent by law added	185 67
	<hr/> \$6,340 87

The Selectmen charge themselves with orders drawn on the Treasurer, for the following purposes, amounting to

\$5,352 90

SCHOOL TAX.

District No. 1, David T. Dale	\$276 77	
2, Clark B. Hall.....	164 45	
3, Samuel S. Parker.....	157 67	
4, Emerson H. Childs.....	72 17	
5, Garland Smith.....	59 79	
6, James W. Towle.....	63 51	
7, Charles E. Fegan.....	81 73	
8, Luther B. Lane.....	97 55	
9, George Cammett.....	60 96	
10, Nathaniel H. Currier.....	46 35	
1, in Auburn, Charles Chase...	16 85	
	<hr/>	\$1,097 80
Amount school money raised by tax.....	\$983 50	
Literary fund.....	114 30	
	<hr/>	\$1,097 80

SCHOOL-HOUSE TAX.

District No. 1.....	\$350 00	
3.....	250 00	
7.....	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$625 00

STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

State tax.....	\$1,124 00	
County tax.....	1,223 35	
	<hr/>	\$2,347 35

IMPROVEMENTS IN HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Edwin Jones	\$22 75
Edwin Haselton, bridge plank.....	3 63
Charles A. Wilcomb, posts for railing.....	1 50
Nathaniel West, repairing bridge.....	36 50
Seth D. Lane, covering bridge with stone...	24 75
Ebenezer Sanborn, bridge stringers.....	10 00

Samuel W. Edwards, repairing bridge.....	23 58	
David C. French, rebuilding two bridges, and building one new culvert.....	89 52	
William P. W. Whittemore, bridge plank in 1876	90	
Lewis Sanborn, bridge plank in 1876.....	4 80	
Charles N. Fitz, repairing hill near M. Web- ster	43 49	
George Cammett, repairing highway near H. Knights.....	5 26	
George Cammett, railing Berry hill.....	15 06	
Seth D. Lane, bridge plank.....	9 63	
Asa Wilson, bridge plank	2 44	
Frederick Griffin, building culvert.....	10 00	
John H. Smith, work on bridge.....	1 50	
Josiah D. Morse, work on highway, District No. 16, in 1876	4 65	
	<hr/>	\$309 96

BREAKING ROADS.

William Shirley, 1876.....	\$2 10	
Moses Webster.....	4 65	
William C. Ela.....	10 61	
James Shirley.....	3 60	
David E. Richardson	15 25	
Horace E. True	4 80	
Daniel S. West, 1878.....	5 55	
Seth D. Lane, 1877 and 1878.....	6 45	
Cleveland C. Beard, 1876.....	3 97	
Charles E. Wakefield.....	4 87	
W. P. W. Whittemore.....	7 80	
Garland Smith	1 50	
George Cammett, 1876 and 1877.....	6 30	
Charles Chase.....	7 13	
Josiah H. Adams.....	1 65	
John H. Smith.....	3 60	
Charles H. Green, 1876 and 1877.....	22 43	
Josiah D. Morse, work in District No. 16, in 1876	1 20	
	<hr/>	\$113 46

WATERING-TROUGHS.

Josiah H. Adams, bill for 1876 and 1877.....	\$4 00
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NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAXES WORKED.

Silas F. Learnard and others, 1876.....	\$55 54
Silas F. Learnard and others, 1877.....	91 28
	<hr/> \$146 82

TOWN-HALL EXPENSES.

Clark M. Bailey, stove.....	\$11 61
John N. Haselton, for glass, town hall	1 40
Frank C. Brown, warming hall, selectman ..	1 50
John W. West, 2d, repairing town hall, 1876 and 1877.....	2 00
	<hr/> \$16 51

CEMETERY.

Charles H. Kent's bill	\$4 00
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SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

Gilman Morse, 1876.....	\$4 00
Benjamin Wilson, 1876.....	4 00
W. P. W. Whittemore, 1877.....	4 00
	<hr/> \$12 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES FOR 1876.

Joseph Gorman, left the state	\$1 85
Charles E. Morse	1 85
Sylvester A. Parker	2 97
Frank H. Martin.....	2 59
Charles C. George.....	1 55
Charles L. Johnson.....	1 55
Arthur B. Chase, paid in Massachusetts	1 55
Charles Warren.....	1 55
Moses O. Emery, paid in Auburn.....	1 55
Charles George.....	1 55
Francis M. Mills, out West.....	1 55

Nelson Amsden, dead, no property	2 55	
Frank H. Frost	1 55	
William D. O. Smith	1 55	
Frank Bean, gone West.....	1 55	
	<hr/>	\$27 31

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Lafayette Chesley.....	\$40 00
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TOWN TREASURER.

John W. Noyes.....	\$25 00
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TOWN CLERK.

Cyrus F. Marston, services and expenses....	\$14 00	
Cyrus F. Marston, notifying town officers to take oath, etc.....	4 00	
	<hr/>	\$18 00

SELECTMEN'S SERVICES.

William Greenough	\$45 00	
Samuel S. Parker.....	42 50	
George W. Dolber.....	26 75	
	<hr/>	\$114 25

SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES.

William Greenough	\$7 00	
Samuel S. Parker.....	19 75	
George W. Dolber.....	6 75	
J. N. Haselton, getting town acts printed for 1876 and 1877.....	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$35 50

OVERSEER OF POOR.

Geo. W. Dolber, services and expenses	\$23 25	
David L. Batchelder, putting up tramps.....	13 75	
George W. Dolber, putting up tramps.....	1 50	
J. D. Morse, carrying pauper to county farm in 1876.....	2 50	
	<hr/>	\$41 00

POLICE SERVICES.

Josiah D. Morse, 1875, 1876, and 1877..... \$9 00

RETURN OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Dr. Lafayette Chesley \$1 50

DAMAGES ON HIGHWAY.

Charles N. Greenough's horse killed. \$60 00

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

John Schey, dog died, 1876.....	\$1 00	
Josiah D. Morse, dog died, 1876.....	1 00	
Frank L. McDuffee, dog died, 1877.....	1 00	
George M. West, dog died, 1877.....	1 00	
	<hr/>	\$4 00

STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

Temple & Farrington, blank-books, etc.....	\$14 78	
C. F. Livingston, printing town acts for 1876		
and 1877	28 40	
S. F. Learnard, tax-bills for 1876 and 1877...	3 75	
	<hr/>	\$46 93

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

S. F. Learnard collected before Aug. 1, 4 per		
cent discount on \$2,675 collected		\$107 00

COLLECTING TAXES.

S. F. Learnard, in part on taxes, 1876.....	\$15 00	
S. F. Learnard, in part on taxes, 1877.....	65 00	
	<hr/>	\$80 00

EXPENSES ON TOWN FARM.

G. C. Bartlett, for services and cash paid out		
on town-farm matter	\$13 23	
George W. Dolber, shingles.....	16 25	

Henry Moore, nails.....	98	
Ezra L. Wright.....	4 75	
Charles N. Fitz.....	4 50	
	<hr/>	\$39 71

BOUNTY ON FOXES AND HAWKS.

George W. Dolber, 16 foxes.....	\$8 00	
George W. Dolber, 3 hawks.....	60	
William Greenough, 10 foxes.....	5 00	
William Greenough, 6 hawks.....	1 20	
	<hr/>	\$14 80

AUDITORS' SERVICES..... \$6 00

AUDITORS' AND SELECTMEN'S EXPENSES, \$6 00

Total..... \$5,352 90

WILLIAM GREENOUGH,
SAMUEL S. PARKER,
GEORGE W. DOLBER,
Selectmen of Chester.

Chester, Feb. 25, 1878.

CHESTER, Feb. 25, 1878.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the Selectmen's and Overseer of the Poor's accounts for the past year, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the several charges.

JOHN W. NOYES,
WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL,
MOSES WEBSTER,
Auditors.

DR.

THE TOWN OF CHESTER IN ACCOUNT

1877-8.	
To cash paid for printing and stationery.....	\$46 93
care of cemetery and hearse.....	4 00
breaking roads.....	113 46
improvements on roads and bridges.....	309 96
state tax.....	1,124 00
county tax.....	1,223 35
abatement of taxes on list of 1876.....	27 31
expenses on town farm.....	39 71
town clerk's services and expenses.....	18 00
superintending school committee.....	40 00
town treasurer's services.....	25 00
selectmen's services.....	114 25
selectmen's expenses.....	35 50
school money to districts.....	1,097 80
school-house taxes in districts Nos. 1, 3, and 7.....	625 00
town debt, notes taken up.....	18,668 17
town debt, endorsed on notes now outstanding.....	156 00
watering-troughs.....	4 00
non-resident taxes worked out, 1876.....	55 54
non-resident taxes worked out, 1877.....	91 23
town-house expenses.....	16 51
sheep killed by dogs.....	12 00
abatement on dog tax.....	4 00
support of poor.....	41 00
police service.....	9 00
Dr. Chesley for return of births and deaths.....	1 50
damages by defect in highway.....	60 00
discount on taxes paid before August 1.....	107 00
S. F. Learnard in part for collecting taxes, 1876.....	15 00
S. F. Learnard in part for collecting taxes, 1877.....	65 00
bounty on foxes and hawks.....	14 80
auditors' services.....	6 00
D. L. Batchelder, dinners for auditors and selectmen.....	6 00
Balance in the hands of the treasurer.....	872 15
	<u>\$25,049 22</u>

WITH JOHN W. NOYES, TOWN TREASURER.

CR.

1877.			
March	26.	By balance in treasury on settlement, February 28.....	\$65 67
	26.	By cash of S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	400 00
April	2.	hired of Mary Butterfield.....	200 00
	2.	hired of Daniel Sanborn.....	1,000 00
	5.	hired of James Marden.....	300 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	459 00
May		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	275 00
June		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	200 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	232 00
		J. N. Haselton on tax-list of 1875.....	159 00
July		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	1,000 00
	3.	hired of Matilda S. True.....	110 19
	3.	hired of Lavinia J. Wason.....	140 15
Aug.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	150 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	543 00
Sept.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	100 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	100 00
	15.	hired of Martha A. Hatch.....	208 10
Oct.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	100 00
Nov.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	100 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	300 00
Dec.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	650 00
1878.			
Jan.		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	200 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	200 00
	4.	hired of V. M. Calef.....	1,000 00
	4.	hired of C. W. Calef.....	500 00
	4.	hired of Lucy A. Marston.....	500 00
	12.	hired of Sarah E. Pratt.....	1,597 53
	12.	hired of Susan J. Mullett.....	692 26
	12.	state treasurer, saving -bank tax.....	714 30
	12.	state treasurer, railroad tax.....	70 32
	12.	state treasurer, literary fund.....	98 47
	15.	hired of William D. Knowles.....	800 00
	19.	hired of Mary S. Higgins.....	450 00
Feb.	1.	hired of Ephraim Nichols.....	1,000 00
	1.	hired of Frederick Wason.....	1,100 00
	1.	hired of Lydia Carr.....	750 00
	1.	hired of Betsey Pressey.....	100 00
	1.	hired of Dady Ann Morse.....	290 95
	1.	hired of Martha W. Webster.....	200 00
	1.	hired of Moses Webster.....	1,000 00
	1.	hired of Jonathan Pressey.....	750 00
	1.	hired of Sarah Shaw.....	750 00
	1.	hired of Joseph Webster.....	650 00
	1.	hired of Elizabeth K. Cheswell.....	500 00
	1.	hired of Sarah A. Morse.....	897 44
	15.	J. N. Haselton on tax-list of 1874.....	100 00
	15.	hired of Daniel Sanborn.....	1,000 00
	15.	hired of William P. Underhill.....	440 00
	21.	S. F. Learnard, interest on taxes of 1876 after Dec. 1....	72 31
	22.	Frank C. Brown, for use of town hall.....	4 00
	22.	selectmen, income from town farm.....	143 45
	22.	J. N. Haselton on tax-list of 1875.....	56 77
	22.	J. N. Haselton, interest collected on taxes of 1874.....	19 62
	22.	J. N. Haselton, interest collected on taxes of 1875.....	27 69
	22.	S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1876.....	100 00
		S. F. Learnard on tax-list of 1877.....	600 00

\$25,049 22

JOHN W. NOYES, *Treasurer.*

STATEMENT.

The Town owes the following debts, interest cast to March 1, 1878.

1870.			
Sept.	16.	Sarah A. Haselton.....	\$77 22
1875.			
Jan.	25.	Sophronia Emerick.....	218 27
Sept.	18.	George M. Warner	1,051 98
1876.			
March	27.	Joseph J. Brown.....	311 22
April	1.	Charles H. Knowles	287 11
May	10.	David Currier.....	207 53
June	20.	John Wason, 2d.....	108 65
Oct.	18.	Rebecca Wason.....	213 85
Nov.	17.	James D. Lane.....	319 51
Nov.	17.	John Lane	106 50
Nov.	17.	Mary Sanborn.....	267 31
Dec.	1.	Julia A. Sanborn.....	106 31
Dec.	1.	Ella E. Webster.....	106 31
1877.			
April	2.	Mary Butterfield	209 15
April	5.	James Marden.....	313 54
July	3.	Matilda S. True.....	114 73
July	3.	Lavinia J. Wason.....	139 68
Sept.	15.	Martha A. Hatch	212 87
1878.			
Jan.	4.	Lucy A. Marston	503 11
Jan.	12.	Sarah E. Pratt	1,606 05
Jan.	12.	Susan J. Mullett	695 96
Jan.	15.	William D. Knowles.....	804 00
Jan.	19.	Mary S. Higgins	452 05
Feb.	1.	Ephraim Nichols.....	1,003 33
Feb.	1.	Frederick Wason.....	1,103 67
Feb.	1.	Lydia Carr.....	752 50
Feb.	1.	Betsey Pressey.....	100 33
Feb.	1.	Daty Ann Morse.....	291 92
Feb.	1.	Martha W. Webster	200 67
Feb.	1.	Moses Webster.....	1,003 33
Feb.	1.	Jonathan Pressey.....	752 50
Feb.	1.	Sarah Shaw	752 50
Feb.	1.	Sarah A. Morse	900 43

Feb. 1.	Joseph Webster.....	652 17
Feb. 1.	Elizabeth K. Cheswell.....	501 67
Feb. 15.	Daniel Sanborn.....	1,001 67
Feb. 15.	William P. Underhill	440 74
		————— \$17,890 34

From which deduct:

Cash in Treasurer's hands	\$872 15
Balance due from J. N. Haselton, on tax- list of 1873	56 75
Balance due from J. N. Haselton, on tax- list of 1874	241 56
Balance due from J. N. Haselton, on tax- list of 1875	325 02
Balance due from S. F. Learnard, on tax- list of 1876	120 21
Balance due from S. F. Learnard, on tax- list of 1877	1,815 87
Balance due from United States.....	895 00
The town farm	2,278 82
9½ M shingles for town hall	52 25
	<hr/> \$6,657 63

Balance against the Town.....	\$11,232 71
Town debt reduced.....	\$1,170 28

The Town is paying four per cent interest on about thirteen thousand dollars, and five per cent interest on the balance of the notes against the town.

JOHN W. NOYES, *Treasurer.*

CHESTER, February 25, 1878.

CHESTER, Feb. 25, 1878.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the Town Treasurer's accounts for the past year, and find the same correctly cast, with proper vouchers for the same.

WILLIAM P. UNDERHILL,
MOSES WEBSTER,
Auditors.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The subjoined report of the schools of Chester, for 1877-8, is respectfully submitted :

DISTRICT No. 1. Money, \$276.77.

DAVID T. DALE, Prudential Committee.

Summer and fall terms, 18 weeks. Winter term, 8 3-5 weeks. Total attendance, summer and fall terms, 58; average, 45+. Total attendance, winter term, 44; average, 34.

The summer and fall terms were taught by Miss Clara O. Blanchard, who worked faithfully to improve the school. The number of scholars attending this school during the pleasant seasons is so large that the services of an assistant teacher are imperatively required, to relieve the principal of a portion of the care of the smaller classes.

G. E. Eastman was engaged to teach the winter term. On the third week, the school committee, believing it to be for the good of the school, dismissed Mr. E., and Mrs M. J. Dolber was chosen his successor. Mrs. Dolber inaugurated some needed reforms, acquitted herself creditably, and gave good satisfaction.

DISTRICT No. 2. Money, \$164.45.

CLARK B. HALL, Prudential Committee.

Summer and fall terms, 16 weeks. Winter term, 9 weeks. Total attendance, summer and fall terms, 31; average, 23+. Total attendance, winter term, 26; average, 23.

The summer and fall terms were taught by Miss Nellie Moore. This was Miss Moore's first effort as a teacher, in which was displayed good ability, decision, and energy.

Miss Ella E. Webster, an experienced teacher, had charge of the winter school. Miss Webster has been uniformly successful, having taught the school in this district, at intervals, for seven terms.

DISTRICT No. 3. Money, \$157.67.

SAMUEL S. PARKER, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 9 weeks. Fall term, 11 weeks. Total attendance, summer term, 24; average, 22+. Total attendance, fall term, 26; average, 23.

Both terms taught by Mrs. M. J. Dolber. The school was well conducted, and the closing examination was highly meritorious.

Extensive repairs were made on the school-house in this district the past summer; making it one of the best school-houses in town.

DISTRICT No. 4. Money, \$72.17.

EMERSON H. CHILDS, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 6 weeks. Fall term, 8 4-5 weeks. Total attendance, summer term, 11; average, 10+. Total attendance, fall term, 19; average 15+.

Miss Mary E. Noyes, teacher, both terms. Miss Noyes gave entire satisfaction, with the approval of committees, parents, and scholars.

DISTRICT No. 5. Money, \$59.79.

GARLAND SMITH, Prudential Committee.

Single term, 14 weeks. Total attendance, 18; average, 16.

Lillie R. Dolber, teacher. Energetic, persistent efforts on the part of Miss Dolber were followed by excellent results. The closing examination was largely attended and received general approbation.

DISTRICT No. 6. Money, \$63.51.

JAMES W. TOWLE, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 123-5 weeks. Total attendance, 14; average, 13.

Sarah L. Haselton, teacher. Miss Haselton taught the same school last year and deserves credit for perseverance and industry.

DISTRICT No. 7. Money, \$81.73.

CHARLES E. FEGAN, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 8 weeks. Fall term, 9 weeks. Total attendance, summer term, 30; average, 28. Total attendance, fall term, 33; average, 28.

Lizzie A. Little, teacher, summer term. H. S. Kimball, teacher, fall term. One or two instances of insubordination, not timely checked, impaired the efficiency of the teacher of the summer school. Mr. Kimball resided in the district and had never taught prior to this school. His management was good and the school made fair progress.

DISTRICT No. 8. Money, \$97.55.

LUTHER B. LANE, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 8 weeks. Fall term, 13 weeks. Total attendance, summer term, 17; average, 15+. Total attendance, fall term, 22; average, 1 —.

Teacher, Julia A. Sanborn. The school made uniform progress through both terms.

DISTRICT No. 9. Money, \$60.96.

NATHANIEL H. CURRIER, Prudential Committee.

Summer term, 8 weeks. Fall term, 7 weeks. Total attendance, summer term, 10; average, 8—. Total attendance, fall term, 9; average, 7+.

Teacher, summer term, Susie E. Wadleigh. Teacher, fall term, Frances M. Dennett. Miss Wadleigh did her best to promote the welfare of the school. The district was almost unanimous for her continuance the second term. The prudential committee employed Miss Dennett. An unfortunate division of sentiment sprang up, which injured the school and crippled the efforts of the teacher. We trust that the wisdom of the parents will so arrange that there shall be no renewal of the strife the coming school year.

DISTRICT No. 10. Money, \$46.35.

GEORGE CAMMETT, Prudential Committee.

Single term, 134-5 weeks. Total attendance, 8; average, 7—.

Mrs. J. A. Hook, teacher. The school made excellent progress. Mrs. Hook manifested deep interest in the scholars and won their esteem. The balance of her task was easy.

CHESTER ACADEMY.

Chester Academy, so long a fixed institution of the town, has been closed a large part of the year. Miss Greenough, former principal, declined the position, and no one was found willing to accept the trust until this winter, when Miss Emma Moore, a graduate of Bradford Academy, Mass., assumed the duties. A permanent fund, in aid of the academy, would greatly benefit the school, and confer lasting honor on some noble-hearted donor. With this object in view, it would be well to have a new organization of the trustees, and that active exertions be made to induce some liberal friend of education, who has the means, to help in this direction.

TARDINESS AND ABSENCE.

I am happy to state that the average amount of tardiness and absence of the pupils of our district schools has decreased from last year, and that a large number of scholars, in particular districts, have not once been absent from school during the term, while a number are reported as neither having been absent nor tardy.

ORAL INSTRUCTION.

Those teachers who, out of the plenitude of their own minds, give facts, illustrations, etc., are meeting with the best success.

The late Prof. Agassiz applied the oral method successfully with his pupils, and the general adoption in our common schools would awaken interest in the most indifferent.

The want of animation among scholars, when wholly confined to the routine of text-books, without lively explanation by the teacher, affords convincing proof of the superiority of mixed oral instruction. The processes of education, so successfully carried on in the first years of life, should be pursued in the school-room, and the teacher whose mind is so well stored in general knowledge, as well as the subject under particular consideration, that he or she can conduct the recitation in that study without referring to the text-book and elucidate the same in a clear and concise manner exerts a power over the mind of the scholar to be attained by no other method.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

A uniform system of weights and measures is gradually superseding the present arbitrary standard. The tables of the metric system are appended to the later arithmetics, and the children should receive instruction in them. Competent authority has pronounced in its favor, and the Congress of the United States has legalized its use. John Quincy Adams declared the metric system to be worth more than the steam-engine as a labor-saving appliance, and it is the opinion of eminent English educators, that its full adoption would annually save \$1,750,000 in school expenses, by

increasing the facilities of general education. If the importance of this system be not greatly exaggerated, teachers should early acquire a thorough knowledge of the whole subject, and impart the same to the pupils of the district schools. The spirit of improvement affords reasonable ground for the belief that the system will soon come into general use.

CONCLUSION.

While we are gratified with the improvement in our schools, we must urge upon teachers the necessity for greater advancement and higher qualification. The standard of education of the past is not up to the requirements of the future. In almost every department of human industry, invention has changed the relation of things and is forcing competition. The scholar of the present must be able to compete with the accumulated knowledge of the future to insure the independent thought that will guarantee success. We do not mean to assert that every one to be successful must be college-bred or well-versed in ancient languages. The solid attainments of our own language and a sound, practical, business education comprise the most of the knowledge essential to success in almost any sphere of pursuit. How far below this standard is the average education of our adult population, let common experience answer! We would afford the highest education and expand the mental horizon of every scholar as far as practicable; but we would first be assured the person had mastered the fundamental branches of study and had a good knowledge of the language of his or her nativity, for without these no permanent or enduring basis on which to found a successful business career can be laid. The public schools should furnish the chief part of this fundamental training, and can be made to do so when systematic and thorough teaching becomes the rule.

Respectfully submitted,

LAFAYETTE CHESLEY,

Superintending School Committee.

CHESTER, N. H.



"MIRROR"
Steam Printing Establishment,
POST-OFFICE BLOCK,
MANCHESTER, N. H.,
JOHN B. CLARKE, Proprietor.

DAILY MIRROR & AMERICAN,
THREE EDITIONS EACH DAY,

Circulates in all the reading families in the city and vicinity, and is sold on the cars of all the railroads radiating from the city.

Terms, \$6.00 a year in advance.

WEEKLY MIRROR & FARMER,
A 48-COLUMN QUARTO,

Having the largest circulation of any paper of its class in New England out of Boston. The great paper for the farmers of New Hampshire.

Only \$1.00 a year, in clubs of 10, or \$1.25 a single copy.

Mirror Job Department,
Unexcelled in the State.

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